



## INJURY & VIOLENCE

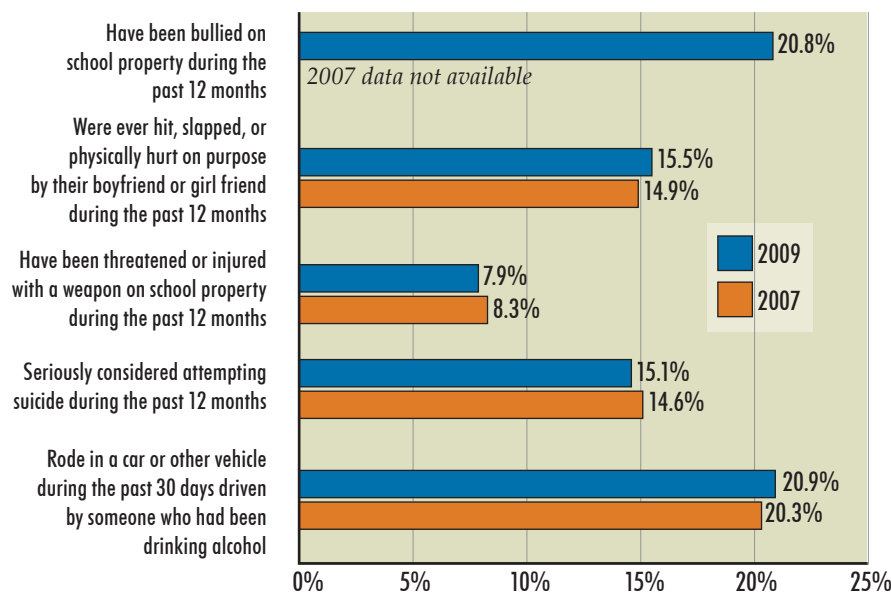
### High School Fact Sheet

In the United States, injuries are the leading cause of death and disability for people aged 1 to 44 years. Approximately 72% of all deaths among adolescents aged 10-24 years are attributed to injuries from only four causes: motor vehicle crashes (30%), all other unintentional injuries (15%), homicide (15%), and suicide (12%). Highly associated with these injuries are adolescent behaviors such as physical fights, carrying weapons, making a suicide plan, and not using seatbelts.<sup>1</sup> The rates of some of these risk behaviors among Kentucky students are fairly high or have even been steadily increasing. Many students rarely or never wear a seatbelt (13.4%), and many students were in a physical fight one or more times during the past 12 months (28.7%). Also, the risk of suicide could become more common with 26.7% of students feeling so sad or hopeless almost everyday for two weeks or more in a row during the past 12 months, that they stopped doing some usual activities.

<sup>1</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/injury/index.htm>. Retrieved 7/09/09.

### Injuries & Violence in Kentucky

The following graph represents the injuries and violence of high school students in 2007 and 2009. Please note that none of the data represent statistically significant changes.



The YRBS is a nationwide survey produced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) to monitor the six priority health-risk behaviors of adolescents: alcohol and drug use, injury and violence (including suicide), tobacco use, nutrition, physical activity, and sexual risk behaviors. The data is collected from students in 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades every two years.

### Youth Disproportionately at Risk

- Males (18.6%) were more likely than females (7.8%) to have never or rarely wore a seat belt when riding in a car driven by someone else
- Males (33.8%) were more likely than females (9.3%) to have carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on one or more of the past 30 days
- Whites (22.5%) were more likely than blacks (10.8%) to have carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on one or more of the past 30 days
- Males (10.3%) were more likely than females (2.5%) to have carried a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club on school property on one or more of the past 30 days
- Males (35.6%) were more likely than females (21.7%) to have been in a physical fight one or more times during the past 12 months
- Males (13.8%) were more likely than females (5.1%) to have been in a physical fight on school property one or more times during the past 12 months
- Females (32.1%) were more likely than males (21.7%) to have felt sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more in a row that they stopped doing some usual activities during the past 12 months.

### For More Information

For additional KY YRBS data and other YRBS fact sheets, visit the KDE website at: <http://www.education.ky.gov/KDE/Administrative+Resources/School+Health/Youth+Risk+Behavior+Survey.htm>

For national data or more information on the YRBS, visit the CDC website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrebs/index.htm>



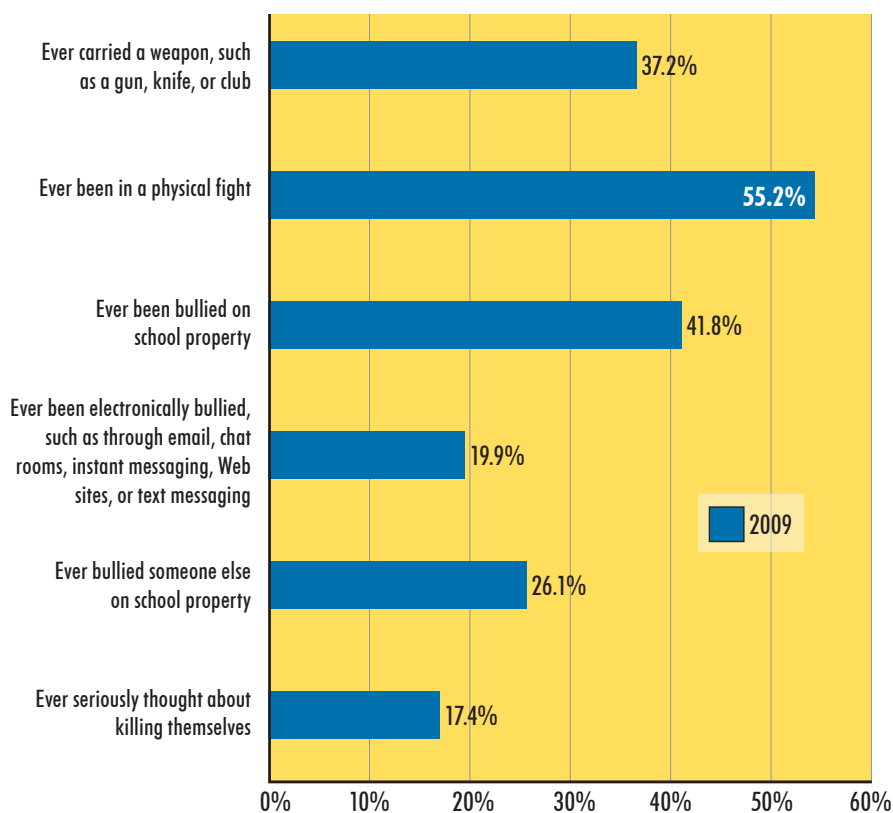
## Middle School Fact Sheet

In the United States, injuries are the leading cause of death and disability for people aged 1 to 44 years. Approximately 72% of all deaths among adolescents aged 10-24 years are attributed to injuries from only four causes: motor vehicle crashes (30%), all other unintentional injuries (15%), homicide (15%), and suicide (12%). Highly associated with these injuries are adolescent behaviors such as physical fights, carrying weapons, making a suicide plan, and not using seatbelts.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/injury/index.htm>. Retrieved 7/09/09.

### Injuries & Violence in Kentucky

The following graph represents the injuries and violence of middle school students in 2009. No comparison data is available.



The YRBS is a nationwide survey produced by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of Adolescent and School Health (DASH) to monitor the six priority health-risk behaviors of adolescents: alcohol and drug use, injury and violence (including suicide), tobacco use, nutrition, physical activity, and sexual risk behaviors. In 2009, Kentucky was one of 14 states who administered a middle school YRBS to students in grades 6th through 8th.

### Youth Disproportionately at Risk

- Males (56.5%) were more likely than females (16.3%) to have ever carried a weapon, such as a gun, knife, or club
- Males (70.4%) were more likely than females (38.8%) to have ever been in a physical fight
- Blacks (73.1%) were more likely than whites (53.5%) to have ever been in a physical fight
- Females (28.9%) were more likely than males (11.6%) to have ever been electronically bullied, such as through email, chat rooms, instant messaging, Web sites, or text messaging
- Whites (21.5%) were more likely than blacks (10.4%) to have ever been electronically bullied, such as through email, chat rooms, instant messaging, Web sites, or text messaging
- Females (20.6%) were more likely than males (14.4%) to have ever seriously thought about killing themselves

### For More Information

For additional KY YRBS data and other YRBS fact sheets, visit the KDE website at: <http://www.education.ky.gov/KDE/Administrative+Resources/School+HealthYouth+Risk+Behavior+Survey.htm>

For national data or more information on the YRBS, visit the CDC website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/HealthyYouth/yrbs/index.htm>